GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:377
ANSWERED ON:28.03.2017
Snow Scooters
Jayavardhan Dr. Jayakumar;Satav Shri Rajeev Shankarrao

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to provide snow scooters and other gadgets to personnel of Indo-Tibetan Border Police and if so, the details thereof;

(b) the number of snow scooters likely to be procured and the estimated cost for each procurement;

(c) whether the Government has shortlisted the companies from which it will procure snow scooters and if so, the details thereof;

(d) the time by which the procurement is likely to be made; and

(e) the other steps taken by the Government to facilitate smooth patrolling in the Himalayas along the 3488 km Indo- China border?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
(SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR)
(a) to (e): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

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L.S.S.Q. NO. *377 FOR 28.03.2017

Statement referred to in reply for part (a) to (e) of the Lok Sabha Starred Question No. *377 by Dr. J. Jayavardhan and Shri Satav Rajeev, Hon'ble MPs for answer on 28.03.2017 regarding 'Snow Scooter'.
(a) to (d) : Upgradation of equipment and technology being used by the Central Armed Police is taken up from time to time keeping in mind the requirements, appropriateness of new equipment or technology, availability of finances etc. 05 Snow Scooters have been procured on a pilot project basis. As such, there is no plan at present to procure more such scooters, and hence no firm or firms have been short listed for the purpose.
(e) : In order to facilitate smooth patrolling along Indo-China border, various actions have been taken which may be seen at Annexure-I.
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Annexure-I

ACTIONS TAKEN TO FACILITATE SMOOTH PATROLLING ALONG INDO-CHINA BORDER

(i) During the financial year 2016-17, ITBP has procured 29 High Powered Light Vehicles under Modernisation Plan-II for specific deployment in the BOPs to facilitate smooth patrolling. Wherever, roads and motorable tracks are available along the border, vehicular patrols are being sent for effective surveillance of area.
(ii) Surveillance equipments such as Telescopes, Periscopes, Night Vision Devices (NVDs), Night Vision Goggles (NVGs), Long Range Finder (LRF), Hand Held Search Light (HHSL), Digital Camera and Hand Held Thermal Imager (HHTI) etc. have been made available, wherever necessary.
(iii) Modern High Frequency Sets (HF Sets), Very High Frequency (VHF) sets and other communication devices such as ISAT Phone & INMARSAT, navigation devices such as GPS & Digital Compass etc. are provided to patrolling units for maintaining seamless communication with all concerned and to ensure smooth navigation along difficult terrain.
(iv) Lightweight water proof warm clothing, equipment & tents are provided to patrols thereby considerably reducing weight to be carried by jawans to ease movement.
(v) Patrol parties moving in high altitude areas are provided "Meal Ready to Eat (MRE)" food.

(vi) Long-Range Reconnaissance and Observation System (LORROS) & Integrated surveillance towers are established at few sensitive locations along the border to keep close vigil on possible ingress routes and to provide advance information to patrols.
(vii) In order to ensure close surveillance of border area and increased frequency of patrols by reducing number of days to reach border, ITBP has established 32 new BOPs along border since-2012.
(viii) ITBP has also augmented strength at 89 BOPs since 2012 for more effective surveillance of border and to ease the burden of patrols on jawans.
(ix) MHA has approved development of critical infrastructure along the border area of Arunachal Pradesh. This includes a number of bridges, tracks, shelters, etc. along patrol routes to ensure smooth patrolling activities along the border.
(x) During winters when the area become inaccessible due to heavy snow accumulation, Aerial reconnaissance and Winter Surveillance Air Operations (WASO) are also conducted in coordination with Army.

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